## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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3 1. (Currently Amended) A method of performing an object editing operation in a data 4 processing system having a display for displaying an object and also having a user input arrangement including a pointer control device for providing inputs to control the location 5 6 of a pointer on the display, the data processing system also having a processing device 7 programmed to receive and respond to inputs entered through the user input arrangement 8 and provide an output for controlling the display, the method including the steps of: 9 receiving an edit function input entered through the user input arrangement, the (a) 10 edit function input defining an edit operation to be performed by the data 11 processing system; 12 identifying a target in response to the edit function input, the target comprising an (b) 13 object appearing on the display as specified by proximity to the pointer at the time 14 the edit function input is received; 15 (c) determining a state of the target; and 16 applying the edit operation to the target if the state of the target indicates that the (d) 17 edit operation is not currently applied to the target; 18 identifying a first target string for the target if the state of the target indicates that (e) 19 the edit operation is currently applied to the target, the first target string 20 comprising a first string of additional object elements which includes the target;

determining the state of the first target string; and

1 applying the edit operation to the first target string if the state of the first target (g)\_\_\_ 2 string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the first target 3 string. 4 5 2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the object comprises a text object 6 [[a]] and the predetermined minimum level of granularity defines the amount of text for 7 the target to be a single word. 8 9 3. (Canceled) 10 11 4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[3]] 1 wherein the object comprises text and a predetermined minimum level of granularity defines the amount of text for the target to 12 13 be a single target word, and wherein the first target string comprises a sentence which 14 includes the target word. 15 16 5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim [[3]] 1 further including the steps of: 17 (a) identifying a second target string for the target if the state of the first target string 18 indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the first target string, the 19 second target string comprising a second string of additional object elements 20 which includes the first target string; 21 (b) determining the state of the second target string; and

1		(c) applying the edit operation to the second target string if the state of the second		
2		target string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the second		
3		target string.		
4				
5	6.	(Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein the object comprises text and a predetermined		
6		minimum level of granularity defines the amount of text for the target to be a single target		
7		word, and wherein the first target string comprises a target sentence which includes the		
8		target word, and wherein the second target string comprises a paragraph which includes		
9		the target sentence.		
10				
11	7.	(Original) The method of Claim 5 further including the steps of:		
12		(a) identifying a third target string for the target if the state of the second target string		
13		indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the second target string, the		
14		third target string comprising a third string of additional object elements which		
15		includes the second target string;		
16		(b) determining the state of the third target string; and		
17		(c) applying the edit operation to the third target string if the state of the third target		
18		string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the third target		
19		string.		
20				
21	8.	(Canceled)		
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1	9.	(Orig	ginal) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of receiving the edit function input
2		comj	prises receiving input data from a keyboard associated with the user input
3		arran	gement.
4			
5	10.	(Orig	ginal) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of receiving the edit function input
6		comp	orises receiving input data from the pointer control device included in the user input
7		arran	gement, the input data from the pointer control device including a switch signal from
8		a swi	tch included in the pointer control device.
9			
10	11.	(Curr	ently Amended) A program product for performing an editing operation in a data
11		proce	ssing system having a display for displaying an object and also having a user input
12		arran	gement including a pointer control device for providing inputs to control the location
13		of a p	ointer on the display, the data processing system also having a processing device for
14		execu	iting the program product, the program product being stored on a computer readable
15		mediı	am and including:
16		(a)	input program code for receiving an edit function input entered through the user
17			input arrangement and for associating the edit function input with an edit
18			operation to be performed by the data processing system;
19		(b)	target identifying program code for identifying a target in response to the edit
20			function input, the target comprising an object appearing on the display as
21			specified by proximity to the pointer at the time the edit function input is received;

1		(c) first target string identifying program code for identifying a first target string if a
2		state of the target indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the target
3		the first target string comprising a first string of object elements which includes
4		the target;
5		(c)(d) state checking program code for determining the state of the target and for
6		determining the state of the first target string; and
7		(d)(e) operation performance program code for applying the edit operation to the target
8		if the state of the target indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to
9		the target and for applying the edit operation to the first target string if the state of
10		the first target string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the
11		first target string.
12		
13	12.	(Original) The program product of Claim 11 wherein the target identifying program code
14		identifies a single target word of text as the target.
15		
16	13.	(Canceled)
17		
18	14.	(Currently Amended) The program product of Claim [[13]] 11 further including second
19		target string identifying program code for identifying a second target string if the state of
20		the first target string indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the first target
21		string, the second target string comprising a second string of object elements which
22		includes the first target string, and wherein:

1		(a)	the state checking program code determines the state of the second target string;
2			and
3		(b)	the operation performance program code applies the edit operation to the second
4			target string if the state of the second target string indicates that the edit operation
5			is not currently applied to the second target string.
6			
7	15.	(Cur	rently Amended) The program product of Claim 14 further including third target
8		string	g identifying program code for identifying a third target string if the state of the
9		seco	nd target string indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the second
10		targe	st string, the third target string comprising a third string of object elements which
11		inclu	des the second target string, and wherein:
12		(a)	the state checking program code determines the state of the third target string; and
13		(b)	the operation performance program code applies the edit operation to the third
14			target string if the state of the third target string indicates that the edit operation is
15			not currently applied to the third target string.
16			
17	16.	(Curr	rently Amended) A data processing system including:
18		(a)	a display;
19		(b)	a user input arrangement including a pointer control device, the pointer control
20			device for providing inputs to control the location of a pointer on the display; and
21		(c)	a processor programmed to:
22			(I) receive an edit function input entered through the user input arrangement;

1		(ii)	identify a target in response to the edit function input, the target
2			comprising an object appearing on the display as specified by proximity to
3			the pointer at the time the edit function input is received;
4		(iii)	determine a state of the target; and
5		(iv)	apply an edit operation to the target if the state of the target indicates that
6			the edit operation is not currently applied to the target, the edit operation
7			comprising an operation defined by the edit function input;
8		<u>(v)</u>	identify a first target string for the target if the state of the target indicates
9			that the edit operation is currently applied to the target, the first target
10			string comprising a first string of additional object elements which
11			includes the target:
12		(vi)	determine the state of the first target string; and
13		(vii)	apply the edit operation to the first target string if the state of the first
14			target string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the
15			first target string.
16			
17	17.	(Canceled)	
18			
19	18.	(Currently Am	nended) The data processing system of Claim [[17]] 16 wherein the
20		processor is al	so programmed to:
21		(a) identify	y a second target string if the state of the first target string indicates that the
22		edit op	eration is currently applied to the first target string, the second target string

1			comprising a second string of additional object elements which includes the first
2			target string;
3		(b)	determine the state of the second target string; and
4		(c)	apply the edit operation to the second target string if the state of the second target
5			string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the second target
6			string.
7			
8	19.	(Orig	inal) The data processing system of Claim 18 wherein the processor is also
9		progr	ammed to:
10		(a)	identify a third target string for the target if the state of the second target string
11			indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the second target string, the
12			third target string comprising a third string of additional object elements which
13			includes the second target string;
14		(b)	determine the state of the third target string; and
15		(c)	apply the edit operation to the third target string if the state of the third target
16			string indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the third target
17			string.
18			
19	20.	(Origi	inal) The data processing system of Claim 18 wherein the target comprises a single
20		target	word, the first target string comprises a target sentence including the target word,
21		and th	e second target string comprises a paragraph including the target sentence.

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